



“SCOOP”

ARKANSAS FARM SERVICE AGENCY - - STATE OFFICE

June 2007

Changes of Interest in Farming Operation

If you have any changes to your farming operation within a crop year those changes need to be reported to your Local FSA Office immediately. The changes could be but not limited to:

- purchase or sell of land
- lease of a new farm
- release (drop) of a farm
- change in crop shares – example cash to share, or share to cash

In most cases the changes will require update to program participation documents. For example any of the changes above must have a participating DCP contract modified by September 28, 2007, to be eligible for 2007 benefits. Failure to timely notify FSA of changes in your farming operation may adversely impact your eligibility for USDA benefits.

Farm Reconstitutions

To be effective for 2007, farm combinations or farm division on farms with DCP bases must be requested by August 1, 2007.

Ground Compliance

FSA National Office has informed the State that County Offices will be required to conduct more ground compliance for the 2007 program year because of lack of funding for aerial digital imagery. If you see FSA employees on your farm, don't assume anything is wrong, we are just doing a review of your farm that we normally would have done by aerial digital imagery.

Acreage Reporting Deadline Approaches

July 16, 2007, is the deadline to report spring planted crops. Producers are required to report ALL cropland on the farm, as a condition to receive Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payments, Loans Deficiency Payments (LDP's), and Marketing Assistance Loans. Since July 15, falls on Sunday, producer will have through close of business Monday, July 16, 2007, to complete there acreage reports. Call your local county office today to schedule your appointment.

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**Expiring of Voluntarily Terminating Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
Contract Acres Could Increase Your
Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) Payments**

Farms with CRP contracts that will expire or are voluntarily terminated *before September 2007* may have acreage eligible to be enrolled in the DCP Program. Throughout different farm bills reduction of base and or Production Flexibility (PFC) acres was required in some situations upon enrollment into the CRP Program. New procedure may allow for restoration of these acres as base acres for the DCP Program. Producers with acreage coming out of the CRP Program should visit their local FSA Office to determine eligibility. Farms meeting the criteria must have the restored acres enrolled into DCP by August 3, 2007. DCP enrollment after August 3, 2007 through September 30, 2007 will require a late-payment fee of \$100.00 per farm.

Reconstitution of Enrolled DCP Farms

Farm reconstituted after enrolled in the DCP program are no longer considered enrolled in DCP since the farm number and farm structure is changed. The new resulting farm(s) after reconstitution may be enrolled. The deadline for 2007 enrollment is the later of either August 3, 2007, or 30 calendar days following producer notification of reconstitution. Farms missing the deadline can pay the \$100.00 late-filed fee to enroll until September 30, 2007.

Prevented Planted and Failed Acreage

Prevented Planted Provisions – Producers should report prevented planted acreage to their local FSA Office when the crop acreage is not planted due to disaster-related conditions. To be considered timely filed, prevented planted acres should be reported no later than **15 calendar days after the final planting date** established by Federal Crop Insurance. **Final planting dates are listed in this SCOOP under Program Deadlines.** County Committee review and action are required to receive history credit in accordance with applicable rules and regulations.

County Committee may not approve acreage that:

- Was not planted because of a management decision
- Was used for conservation purpose, including any that was intended to be left idle
- Had a previous or subsequent crop planted that does not meet the double-cropping provisions
- Does not meet other applicable rules.

Failed Acreage Provisions – Producers should report failed crop acres to their local FSA Office when the crop is failed due to disaster-related conditions. To be timely filed, acreage reports for failed acreage shall be filed before the crop is destroyed. County Committee review and action is required to receive history credit in accordance with applicable rules and regulations. For crops for which Federal Crop Insurance is not available, you may be eligible for Non-Insurance Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP).

Program Deadlines

FCIC Final Planting Date for Grain Sorghum	June 10, 2007
FCIC Final Planting Date for Soybeans	June 15, 2007
Final date to request a reconstitution for a farm participating in DCP	August 1, 2007
2007 DCP Signup Ends	August 3, 2007
DCP Late-filed Sign-up \$100.00	August 3 – September 30, 2007
Final Date to Report Changes in Farm Operation	September 30, 2007